

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 01823 050414Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

TRSE-00 EB-08 /064 W

-----050521Z 067044 /23-11

R 050345Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5701

INFO CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 1823

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RP, OTRA (MELCHOR, ALEJANDRO)

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF ALEJANDRO MELCHOR TO U.S.

REF: (A) STATE 025140; (B) MANILA 1479

1. ALTHOUGH I HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED LETTER FROM FLECK CITED REFTEL A, I HAD LONG CONVERSATION WITH MELCHOR AT DINNER FEBRUARY 4. MELCHOR MAINTAINED THAT HIS RECENT MISSION TO WASHINGTON WAS AT BEHEST OF MARCOS, WHO WISHES TO ACHIEVE "BREAKTHROUGH" IN MILITARY BASES NEGOTIATIONS BY LINING UP PRIVATE U.S. CAPITAL FOR INVESTMENT IN FILIPINO ENTERPRISES WHICH WILL BE ESTABLISHED IN THE BASE AREAS. MELCHOR SAID THAT HIS PRIME AGENT IN ARRANGING THIS CAPITAL IS RETIRED ADMIRAL TOM MOORER WITH WHOM HE CONSULTED WHILE IN WASHINGTON.

2. AS FAR AS OTHER ACTIVITIES ARE CONCERNED, MELCHOR SAID HE DID SPEND SOME TIME "ASSESSING" THE NEW CARTER ADMINISTRATION BY INTERVIEWING AMERICAN ACQUAINTANCES. HE WAS DISAPPOINTED, HOWEVER, TO FIND THAT HIS FRIEND PAUL AUSTIN OF COCA COLA WAS IN CAIRO ON COMPANY  
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BUSINESS. IT IS MELCHOR'S CONCLUSION THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION WILL BE "PROCESS ORIENTED" AND WILL THEREFORE MOVE AT A RATHER DELIBERATE PACE IN COMING TO GRIPS WITH ITS FOREIGN POLICY PROBLEMS.

3. I TOLD MELCHOR THAT I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE PRUDENT FOR MARCOS TO UNDERSTAND THAT IT MAY TAKE SOME

TIME FOR THE NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION TO MARSHALL AND DEVELOP ALL ITS THOUGHTS ON U.S. RELATIONS WITH THE PHILIPPINES, ESPECIALLY ON THE SUBJECT OF MILITARY BASES. I SAID THAT I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE IN PHILIPPINE INTERESTS TO BE PATIENT UNTIL THE U.S. EXECUTIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL BRANCHES HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SORT OUT AND DECIDE JUST WHERE WE ARE GOING TO GO ON KOREA BEFORE PRESSING US TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES OF U.S. BASES IN THE PHILIPPINES.

4. COMMENT: AS FAR AS I CAN DISCERN, THE MELCHOR PREOCCUPATION WITH "FILIPINO ENTERPRISES TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THE BASE AREAS" REPRESENTS HIS PERSONAL HOBBY HORSE WHICH HAS LITTLE SUPPORT FROM MARCOS, ENRILE, OR THE PHILIPPINES ARMED FORCES. PERHAPS TOM MOORER CAN BE ASKED TO SHED A LITTLE MORE LIGHT ON THIS SUBJECT. MELCHOR'S CONCLUSION, HOWEVER, THAT THE U.S. PACE ON THE SUBJECT OF BASE NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE DELIBERATE IS SALUTARY AND SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED. END COMMENT. SULLIVAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Subject:** TRAVEL OF ALEJANDRO MELCHOR TO U.S.  
**TAGS:** PFOR, OTRA, RP, (MELCHOR, ALEJANDRO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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